

# Sarah Ann Treul

*Curriculum Vitae*

June 2026

Department of Political Science  
University of North Carolina  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Professor, July 2024-present

CENTER FOR EFFECTIVE LAWMAKING AT VANDERBILT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Faculty Affiliate, July 2018-present

ALLIANCE FOR CIVICS IN THE ACADEMY, Charter Member, Fall 2024-present

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Faculty Director, Program for Public Discourse, July 2020-June 2025

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Bowman and Gordon Gray Term Professor, July 2019-July 2024

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Associate Professor, July 2017-June 2024

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Interim Dean and Director, School for Civic Life and Leadership, October 2023-March 2024

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Carolina Women's Center Faculty Scholar, July 2018-July 2019

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Assistant Professor, July 2011-June 2017

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, Lecturer and Advisor, 2009-2011

## EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, Ph.D in Political Science, 2009  
Dissertation: "*Decision Making in the United States Senate.*" Timothy R. Johnson, Advisor.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, M.A. in Political Science, 2008

WELLESLEY COLLEGE, B.A. *Magna Cum Laude* in Political Science and Psychology,  
2003

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- “Issue Attention in Congressional Primary Elections.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming. With Audrey Sachleben.
- “Legislative Effectiveness, Progressive Ambition, and Electoral Success.” *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming. With Danielle Thomsen, Craig Volden, and Alan Wiseman. *Winner of the State Politics and Policy Quarterly (SPPQ) Best Paper Award presented at APSA in 2022*
- “CampaignView, a database of policy platforms and biographical narratives for congressional candidates.” *Nature-Scientific Data*, 2025. With Colin Case and Rachel Porter.
- “Prior Experience and State Legislative Effectiveness.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming. With Eric Hansen.
- “Evaluating (In)Experience in Congressional Elections.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 69(January 2025). With Rachel Porter.
- “The Selling of Experience in the 2022 Congressional Elections.” *Journal of Political Marketing*, 23(2024): 1-14. With Colin Case.
- “Changing the Dialogue: Descriptive Candidacies & Position-Taking in Campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives.” *Journal of Politics*, 86(April 2024): 458-474. With Rachel Porter and Maura McDonald.
- “Primary Barriers to Working Class Representation.” *Political Research Quarterly*, 76(September 2023): 1516-1528. With Eric Hansen.
- “Understanding Prosecutor Elections.” *American Criminal Law Review*, 60(Winter 2023): 31-77. With Carissa Bryne Hessick and Alexander Love.
- “The Primary Path for Turning Legislative Effectiveness into Electoral Success.” *Journal of Politics*, 84(3): 1714-1726. With Danielle Thomsen, Craig Volden, and Alan Wiseman.
- “Inexperienced or Anti-establishment? Voter Preferences for Outsider Congressional Candidates.” *Research and Politics*, 8(3): 1-7. Available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/20531680211034958>. With Eric Hansen.
- “Majority Party Agenda Setting: Picking Fights or Avoiding Them?” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 47(August 2022): 605-637. With Austin Bussing.

- “The Electoral Consequences of Roll Call Voting: Health Care and the 2018 Election.” *Political Behavior*, 44(March 2022): 157-177. With Austin Bussing, Will Patton, and Jason M. Roberts.
- Interviewed on Matt Grossman’s podcast *The Science of Politics*, episode 71 “How Republicans Lost 2018 by Being Too Close to Trump.”
- “Reevaluating the Substantive Representation of LGB Americans: A Multiverse Analysis.” *Journal of Politics*, 83(October 2021):1837-1843. With Joey Saraceno and Eric Hansen.
- “Running as a Woman?: Candidate Presentation in the 2018 Midterms.” *Political Research Quarterly*, 73(June 2020):967-987. With Maura McDonald and Rachel Porter.
- “Ideological Primary Competition and Congressional Behavior.” *Congress and the Presidency*, 46(May 2019): 471-494. With Caitlin E. Jewitt
- Agenda Crossover: The Influence of State Delegations in Congress*. 2017. Cambridge University Press.
- Reviewed by Charles S. Bullock III in *Perspectives on Politics*, 16(March 2018): 246-48.
- Reviewed by Scott R. Meinke in *Journal of Politics*, 81(January 2019).
- Reviewed by Jennifer Selin in *Political Science Quarterly*, 132(4)(2018): 590-592.
- “Party Committee Targeting and the Evolution of Competition in U.S. House Elections.” *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*, 26(January 2016): 96-114. With Jacob F.H. Smith and Jason M. Roberts.
- “The Symbolic and Substantive Representation of LGB Americans in the U.S. House.” *Journal of Politics*, 77(October 2015): 955-967. With Eric R. Hansen.
- “Assessing Strategic Voting in the 2008 US Presidential Primaries: The Role of Electoral Context, Institutional Rules, and Negative Votes.” *Public Choice*, 161(December 2014): 517-536. With D. Sunshine Hillygus.
- “Competitive Primaries and Party Division in Congressional Elections.” *Electoral Studies*, 35(September 2014): 140-149. With Caitlin E. Jewitt.
- “Indirect Presidential Influence, State-level Approval, and Voting in the U.S. Senate.” *American Politics Research*, 40(March 2012): 355-379. With Caitlin E. Dwyer.
- “Emotions, Oral Arguments, and Supreme Court Decision Making.” *Journal of Politics*, 73(April 2011): 572-581. With Ryan Black, Timothy R. Johnson and Jerry Goldman.
- “Ambition and Party Loyalty in the U.S. Senate.” *American Politics Research*. 37(May 2009): 449-464.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “The Influence of Presidential Primary Elections on Congressional Primary Turnout.” 2026. In *Reforming Elections* eds. Robert G. Boatright and Richard Barton. De Gruyter. With Caitlin E. Jewitt.
- “Make the Right Bet: The Longterm Consequences of Successful Party Recruitment.” 2020. In *New Directions in Congressional Politics*. eds. Jamie L. Carson and Michael S. Lynch. Routledge. With Austin Bussing and Maura McDonald.
- “Inexperienced candidates are becoming more common, but only in one party.” 2018. Vox With Rachel Porter.
- “Ideological Primaries and their Influence in Congress.” 2018. In *Routledge Handbook of Primary Elections*. ed. Robert Boatright. Routledge. With Caitlin E. Jewitt.
- “Congress and the Court: Resolving Campaign Finance Legislation.” 2012. In *New Directions in Congressional Politics*. ed. Jamie L. Carson. Routledge.
- “Predicting the Outcome of Supreme Court Cases at Oral Arguments: A Linguistic Analysis.” *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy*, 29 (Spring 2009): 241-261. With Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan Black and Jerry Goldman.

## SELECTED RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Lawyers and Legislative Effectiveness.” 2025. Annual Meeting of the State Politics & Policy Conference and Annual Conference on Legislative Effectiveness. With Eric Hansen.
- “Prior Experience and State Legislative Effectiveness. 2024. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Eric Hansen.
- “Legislative Effectiveness, Progressive Ambition, and Electoral Success.” 2022. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. With Danielle Thomsen, Craig Volden, and Alan Wiseman.  
Winner of the *State Politics & Policy Quarterly (SPPQ)* Best Paper Award.
- “Primary Barriers to Working Class Representation,” 2020. Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association. With Eric Hansen.
- “Running as a Woman?: Candidate Presentation in the 2018 Congressional Midterms,” 2019. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. With Maura McDonald and Rachel Porter.
- “Turning Legislative Effectiveness into Electoral Success.” 2019. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Danielle Thomsen, Craig Volden, and Alan Wiseman.

- “Inexperience or Anti-Washington? Voter Preferences for Congressional Candidates.” 2019. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Eric R. Hansen.
- “Minority Views: Minority Party Strategies in the U.S. House of Representatives.” 2018. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Austin Bussing.
- “The Primary Decision: Emergence and Success in Congressional Primaries.” 2018. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Rachel Porter.
- “The Effect of Town Halls on Representation in Congress.” 2018. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Austin Bussing, Will Patton, and Jason M. Roberts)
- “Primary Competition and Congressional Behavior.” Parts of this project presented at the 2015, 2016 , and 2017 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Caitlin E. Jewitt.
- “Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Representation in the U.S. Congress.” Presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. With Eric Hansen.

## RECENT INVITED TALKS

- University of Minnesota, November 2025
- University of Denver, April 2025
- Purdue University, February 2025
- Columbia University, February 2025
- University of Chicago’s Center for Effective Government, June 2024
- Stanford University, Revitalizing American Institutions (RAI) at Hoover, April 2024
- Columbia University, April 2024
- Brown University, Women in Legislative Studies Conference, October 2023
- Center for Effective Lawmaking, Vanderbilt University, June 2023
- Georgetown University-Qatar, January 2023
- University of Pittsburgh, February 2022
- Northwestern University, November 2021
- Center for Effective Lawmaking, Vanderbilt University, June 2020 (postponed, rescheduled November 2021)
- Rice University, Women in Legislative Studies Workshop, April 2020 (moved online)
- University of Oklahoma, November 2019
- Center for Effective Lawmaking, University of Virginia, June 2019
- Princeton University, March 2019
- University of Wisconsin, February 2019

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Courses taught in the past five years (with enrollments):

- Political Science 710—Graduate Political Parties, Spring 2018 (8 students)
- Political Science 703—Graduate Legislative Politics, Fall 2023 (5 students), Spring 2021 (4 students)
- Political Science 424—Legislative Process with Model Congress, Spring 2020 (33 students)
- Political Science 100H—Honors Introduction to American Government, Fall 2021 (24 students); Spring 2018 (27 students)
- Political Science 100—Introduction to American Government, Fall 2025 (290 students), Fall 2024 (300 students), Fall 2023 (275 students)
- Political Science 420—Legislative Politics, Fall 2018 (29 students)
- Political Science First Year Seminar 89—Political Entrepreneurship, Fall 2019 (24 students)

Undergraduate Thesis Committees: Mary Kroeger *Spring 2012* (Advisor) “The Disability Rights Legislative Schema;” Zach Cobb *Spring 2012* (Advisor) “Congressional Votes in the Lame Duck Session;” Collin Miller *Spring 2018* (Advisor) “Concerned Coalitions: Informal Groups in the United States House of Representatives;” Grace Gardner *Spring 2018* (Advisor) “The Scheduling of Controversial Roll-Calls Votes in State Senates;” Connor Choate *Spring 2019* (Advisor) “Analyzing the Impact of the Earmark Moratorium on U.S. Congressional Coalition Building;” Bennett Stillerman *Spring 2022* (Advisor) “Sore Losers? The Effect of Post-Election Audit Procedure on Voter Confidence in Presidential Elections;” Jacob Yaniero, Lindsey Stephens, John Harris, Billy Klutz, Andrew Hartman, Sarah Core, Kristen Rosano, David Ribar, Matt Steyl, Christopher Sigman, Anna Roberson, Justin Stidham, Betsy Neill, Will Richardson, Grace King, Kaitlyn Mallie, Matt Mengert, Emma Giusto, Connor Sullivan

Graduate Dissertation Committees: Audrey Sachelben (Advisor), Bridget Seghy (Advisor), Brian Brew (Advisor), Colin Case (Advisor), Rachel Porter (Advisor) and winner of the E.E. Schattschneider Award for best dissertation in the field of American government, Austin Bussing (Advisor), Will Patton (Advisor), Emily Cottle Ommudsen, John Cluverius, Nick Howard, Eric Hansen, Anthony Chergosky, Jacob Smith, Andrew Tyner, Kelsey Shoub, Steven Sparks, John Curiel, Tyler Steelman

Masters Thesis Committees: Audrey Sachelben (Advisor), Bridget Seghy (Advisor), Austin Bussing (Advisor); Rachel Porter (Advisor); Maura McDonald (Advisor); Will Patton (Advisor); Alex Love (Advisor); Brian Brew (Advisor); Emily Cottle; Colin Case; Tyler Steelman; Nathan Pinnell; Ryan Freeman

## RECENT GRANTS AND AWARDS

Order of the Golden Fleece Inductee, March 2025

Center for Effective Lawmaking, Small Grant Competition, 2023, \$1,500 (full requested amount)

*State Politics & Policy Quarterly (SPPQ)* Best Paper Award, 2023

*Institute of Arts and Humanities* UNC Academic Leadership Program, 2021-2022

Co-PI with Marc Hetherington and Tim Ryan, *Policy in Polarized Times*, funded through the NC Policy Collaboratory's COVID-19 research efforts, 2020 \$73,000

Center for Effective Lawmaking, Small Grant Competition, 2020 \$1,000 (full requested amount)

Center for Effective Lawmaking, Small Grant Competition, 2019, \$1,500 (full requested amount)

Department of Political Science Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction, 2019

Chapman Family Teaching Award, 2019

Bowman and Gordon Gray Term Professorship, 2019-2024

Carolina Women's Center, Faculty Scholar Award, 2018, \$10,000

Honors Carolina's Manekin Award for Teaching Excellence, 2018

Center for Effective Lawmaking, Small Grant Competition, 2018, \$2,500 (full requested amount)

## RECENT DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Interim Dean and Director, School for Civic Life and Leadership, October 2023-March 2024

Faculty Director, Program for Public Discourse, 2020-2025

Program for Public Discourse, Internal Board Faculty Advisor, 2019-2020

Institute of Politics, Advisor, 2017-2025

Director of Development, Department of Political Science, 2017-2020

Long Range Planning Committee, Department of Political Science, 2017-2019

American Field Comprehensive Exam Committee, Department of Political Science, Spring 2015, Fall 2017, Fall 2018

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

*External Review Committee*, University of California Merced *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, co-editor, 2021-present

*Midwest Political Science Association* 2020 Program Committee, Chair, Legislative Campaigns and Elections section

*Journal of Politics* Editorial Board, January 2017-2020

Panel Discussant and Chair at Annual Meetings of the Midwestern Political Science Association, the Southern Political Science Association, and the American Political Science Association, 2010-present

## REVIEWER

American Political Science Review  
American Journal of Political Science  
Legislative Studies Quarterly  
Journal of Politics  
American Politics Research  
Public Choice  
Journal of Legislative Studies  
State Politics and Policy Quarterly  
Congress and the Presidency  
Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties  
Political Behavior  
Party Politics  
Political Research Quarterly  
Research and Politics  
Political Behavior  
Politics, Groups, and Identities  
Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization